



**Asian American
Bar Association
of New York**

**Asian American Bar Association of New York
Board Meeting**

Wednesday, April 19, 2017 at 7:00 PM

Hosted by:
Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP
4 Times Square
New York, NY 10036

APRIL 2017 MINUTES

Board Members Present: Dwight Yoo, Yang Chen (non-voting member), Marianne Chow, James Cho, Diane Gujarati, Sapna Palla, Dai Wai Chin Feman, Jeff Ikejiri, Brian Song, Amy Ngai, Terrence Shen, Susan Shin*, Naf Kwun*, Sonia Low*

AABANY Committee Chairs, Members and Others Present: Francis Chin, Jason Cheung

*Present via telephone.

There being a quorum of board members present, Dwight Yoo, President, called the meeting to order at 7:13 PM.

1. Old Business

a. Approval of Board Minutes from March 14, 2017 Meeting

- i. After discussion and upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board adopted the minutes from the March 14, 2017 board meeting.

2. Reports and Announcements¹

a. March and April Highlights

- i. Government Service & Public Interest and Pro Bono & Community Service Committee Meeting (3/15, 6:30 – 8:30 pm @ Legal Services NYC, 40 Worth Street, 6th Floor, NY, NY)
- ii. AABANY LGBT Committee Presents a Sign of the Times: What's at Stake for LGBT Asians and South Asians (3/15, 6:30 – 8:30 pm @ Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson, LLP, 1 New York Plaza, NY, NY)

¹ Not discussed unless otherwise noted.

- iii. AABANY Judiciary Committee Presents the Importance of Engaging in Judicial Screening Committee Panels (3/16, 7:00 – 9:00 pm @ Dorsey & Whitney LLP, 51 West 52nd Street, NY, NY)
- iv. AABANY Trial Advocacy Program (TAP) (3/25, 9:30 am – 4:15 pm @ Morrison & Foerster LLP, 250 West 55th Street, NY, NY)
- v. AABANY Co-Sponsors: Real Estate Networking Event (3/27, 6 – 8 pm @ Hyatt Place, 133-42 39th Avenue, Flushing, NY)
- vi. AABANY Real Estate Committee and Solo & Small Firm Practice Committee Present: Strategies to Start or Advance Your Legal Career: Panel and Networking Reception (3/29, 5:30 – 7:30pm @ New York Law School, Room W401, 185 West Broadway, NY, NY)
- vii. AABANY Presents: Build Your Own Network - Panel and Speed Networking (3/30, 6:30 – 9:30 pm @ Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP, 787 7th Ave, NY, NY)
- viii. Tax Committee Annual Networking Event (3/31, 6 – 8 pm @ Landmarc, 10 Columbus Circle, Third Floor, NY, NY)
- ix. Mentorship Program Spring Reception (4/18, 6:30 – 8:30 pm @ Baker & McKenzie LLP, 452 Fifth Avenue, NY, NY)
- x. AABANY Co-Sponsors: Police Reform: What’s Working? (4/19, 6:30 – 8:30 pm @ New York City Bar Association, 42 West 44th Street, NY, NY)

b. Promotion of Future Events

- i. Committee Chairs Orientation Meeting and Kick-Off Reception (4/20, 6 – 9:30 pm @ BakerHostetler LLP, 45 Rockefeller Plaza, NY, NY followed by NYY Steakhouse, 7 West 51st Street, NY, NY)
 - 1. Yang Chen invited board members to attend the Kick-Off Reception at NYY Steakhouse.
- ii. AABANY Co-Sponsors: Book Presentation - A Short & Happy Guide to Networking (4/24, 6 pm @ Fordham School of Law, Hill Faculty Conference Room (7-119), 150 West 62nd Street, NY, NY)
- iii. AABANY Judiciary Committee Meeting (4/26, 7 – 9 pm @ King & Spalding LLP, 1185 Avenue of the Americas, Room 34E, NY, NY)
- iv. AABANY Co-Sponsors: New York Diversity Forum (4/28, 9:30 am – 4:30 pm @ U.S. District Courthouse, 225 Cadman Plaza East, Brooklyn, NY)
 - 1. Yang Chen reported that AABANY will co-host a panel with SABANY during the afternoon session of the Forum. The panel will discuss the history of Chinese exclusion acts, including present day

executive orders. AABANY will be publicizing the Forum, and board members are invited to attend.

- v. AABANY Monthly Pro Bono Legal Clinic (5/10, 6:30 – 8:30 pm @ Chinese Chamber of Commerce of NY, Inc., 33 Bowery Street, Suite C202, NY, NY)
- vi. AABANY and Hard IP Present: Judges’ Reception (5/17, 6:30 – 9:30 pm @ The Loft in Flatiron, 20 West 23rd Street, NY, NY)
 - 1. Yang Chen discussed the Judges’ Reception and encouraged board members to attend.
- vii. AABANY Co-Sponsors: Discussion with Acting U.S. Atty. Joon Kim, Hon. Denny Chin, and Rep. Grace Meng (5/30, 6 – 9 pm @ Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer LLP, 250 West 55th Street, NY, NY)
 - 1. Yang Chen thanked Susan Shin for her efforts in organizing this event. Susan recognized James Cho for his assistance. Yang noted that AABANY automatically registered all board members and committee chairs for the event. Susan requested that, in light of limited capacity, AABANY solicit RSVPs from board members and committee chairs. Yang responded that AABANY will do so.
- viii. AABANY Hosts: Abacus: Small Enough to Jail (5/24 (tentative) @ Location TBD)
 - 1. Yang Chen reported that the film’s producers have asked AABANY, KALAGNY and FALA New York to help promote the documentary, Abacus: Small Enough to Jail, which is opening on May 19 at the IFC Center. AABANY is in the process of organizing a screening of the documentary to be held on Wednesday, May 24.
- ix. AABANY Co-Sponsors: Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP Asian Pacific American Heritage Month Event Honoring Corky Lee (Date TBD @ Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP, One Liberty Plaza, New York, NY)
 - 1. Yang Chen reported that Cleary contacted AABANY earlier in the month to request that AABANY co-sponsor Cleary’s APA Heritage Month event. The photographer Corky Lee will be honored and will display selected works. AABANY will co-sponsor the event.
- x. AABANY Trial Reenactment Team and Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft LLP Present: *Oyama v. California* (5/31 @ Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft, 200 Liberty Street, New York, NY)
 - 1. Yang Chen noted that Cadwalader will circulate an invitation to the May 31 *Oyama* reenactment.

3. New Business (Open)

a. Resolution to Approve Change of Signature Authority

- i. Dwight Yoo requested that the Board adopt a resolution approving the change of signature authority in light of the new fiscal year and installation of new officers.
- ii. After discussion and upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board adopted a resolution approving signature authority for the current fiscal year for Dwight Yoo (President), James Cho (President-Elect), Amy Ngai (Treasurer), and Yang Chen (Executive Director). The resolution was executed after the adjournment of the board meeting.

b. Filling Board Vacancy: Development Director – Kevin Kim

- i. Dwight Yoo requested that the Board appoint Kevin Kim to the vacant position of Development Director. James Cho, who is acquainted with Kevin, provided an overview of Kevin's background. Kevin attended Stanford University and Columbia Law School, clerked for Judge Denny Chin, and has significant fundraising and development experience. James believes Kevin will be a strong fit for the position given his fundraising capabilities and community connections, both with attorneys and non-attorneys.
- ii. After a group discussion of Kevin's candidacy, the Board decided that Dwight Yoo will appoint a Nominations Committee pursuant to Section 6.04 of AABANY's Bylaws prior to next month's board meeting. At that meeting, the Nominations Committee will submit Kevin, as well as any other proposed candidates, to the Board.

c. Creation of Position: Technology Director – Francis Chin

- i. Dwight Yoo requested that the Board formally move, pursuant to prior discussions, to create a non-voting Board officer position of Technology Director. The non-voting position will be filled by Francis Chin, who has informally provided valuable technological expertise and talent to AABANY in the past.
- ii. After discussion and upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board created the officer position of Technology Director and appointed Francis Chin to fill the position.

d. Preliminary Budget for Review

- i. Dwight Yoo circulated confidential hard copies of this year's preliminary budget for informational and discussion purposes. Dwight reviewed how last year's actual budget compared to projections, and indicated that the final budget will be presented for approval at the next board meeting, at which AABANY's cash flows and investment policy will also be discussed.

e. Approval of Committee Budget

- i. Dwight Yoo requested that the Board vote to approve the line item in the preliminary budget regarding the committee budget of \$65,000. Approval of the committee budget will provide VPPOs with authority regarding proposed committee events and budget allocation at the upcoming Committee Chairs Orientation Meeting and Kick-Off Reception.
- ii. Jeff Ikejiri and Naf Kwun led a discussion of various strategic issues related to the overall functioning and organization of committees and committee-level events. James Cho reported that the Pro Bono Committee has a substantial workload, and may benefit from the allocation of additional funds, staffing, and/or other resources.
- iii. With respect to the amount of the proposed committee budget, Susan Shin noted that \$65,000 is an appropriate number in light of the importance of committee events to AABANY.
- iv. After discussion and upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board approved the committee budget of \$65,000.

f. VPPO Report – Update on Committee Chairs

- i. Jeff Ikejiri reported that there are 16 new committee co-chairs beginning terms this fiscal year. The first deadline for committees to submit budgets is April 28, and the second deadline is May 5. Committees have already proposed several potential programs for this fiscal year.
- ii. James Cho asked whether there are any committee chair vacancies. Naf Kwun responded that all committees have at least one chair, but at least three committees seek additional co-chairs (Women’s, Mentorship, and Student Outreach). Yang Chen noted that AABANY has asked through its weekly announcements for volunteers to serve as additional co-chairs, but there have been no responses to date.

g. Preparation of Board Book

- i. Dwight Yoo explained that AABANY will circulate an electronic Board Book containing important information that will help board members perform their duties. The plan is to have it ready by the time of the May board meeting.

h. Videoconferencing/WebEx Services

- i. Dwight Yoo reported that to ease the time commitment for board members, at least every other Board meeting this fiscal year will be held telephonically. To share materials during telephonic meetings, staff has been exploring technology options. Board members were encouraged to submit recommendations for videoconferencing or web presentation services.

i. ABA Annual Meeting in New York City, Aug. 2017

- i. Yang Chen explained that the ABA intends for its August 2017 annual meeting in New York City to be its largest annual meeting ever. It appears that the ABA sincerely wants AABANY's participation, as it has requested that AABANY co-sponsor the CLE in the City Series. AABANY will also lead a *Heart Mountain Draft Resisters* reenactment at the Fordham Law moot court facility, in which Judge Denny Chin will participate. AABANY will aim to involve the AABANY Trial Reenactment Team as well as other bar associations. Board members were encouraged to participate and help publicize the annual meeting.

4. Next Meeting (Telephonic): May 9, 2017

- a. Agenda items to daiwai.chinfeman@aabany.org by May 3, 2017

There being no further business, upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 7:51 PM.